

THE GW HATCHET

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Thursday, November 3, 1994



Third-year law students Tim Bierman and Andrew Mayock battle it out on the University Yard during Alcohol Awareness week.

photo by Abdul El-Tayef

'I felt something on my ear'

Schenley resident says she complained about roaches

BY DOUGLAS PARKER
NEWS EDITOR

Shannelle Armstrong keeps her apartment clean, but it does not keep the roaches out.

Armstrong, a graduate student, hired her own exterminator in addition to exterminators hired by the company that manages the Schenley, a GW-owned building on H Street, where she lives. But the roaches are back hours after the exterminators leave.

Sunday morning, Armstrong was rushed to the GW Medical Center emergency room in an ambulance, because while she was asleep in her third-floor apartment, a cockroach crawled into her ear and pushed against her eardrum.

"I felt something on my ear ... a grinding in my eardrum," Armstrong said. She said she woke up "screaming in a hysteria."

Armstrong, a full-time student in the Graduate School of Political Management and an employee in the Office of Campus Activities, was treated at the GW Hospital emergency room where a doctor flushed the still-living cockroach out of her ear and on to the ground.

The only advice the doctor had was to "consider sleeping with a hat on," according to her medical

report.

Since the incident, Armstrong stayed at her boyfriend's house until the University offered her temporary housing in Everglades Hall Tuesday night.

Real Property Manager Kevin Muldoon said Armstrong had been offered permanent housing elsewhere which she declined, and that Mike Gargano, special assistant to Vice President for Student and Academic Support Services Robert

Chernak, was handling the case.

Gargano said he had worked with the case only to the extent that he had found Armstrong temporary housing until the situation in the Schenley was resolved.

Patricia Dooley, a spokeswoman for Waggaman-Brawner, the company that manages the Schenley, said Armstrong's situation was a rarity, and the rest of the building does not have a roach problem.

(See ROACHES, p. 9)



photo by Claire Duggan

Graduate student Shannelle Armstrong battles roaches in her apartment, even after having one surgically removed from her ear.

Zoning board rejects wellness center, 3-2

University says it will make new plans

BY ELISSA LEIBOWITZ
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment on Wednesday turned down GW's proposal for a new athletic center, citing a breach of the University's campus plan and a disregard for a nearby historic building.

The 3-2 vote opposing GW's plan for the Health and Wellness Center now means the University has to revise its proposal. Administrators said Wednesday they plan to resubmit altered plans for the building.

The Health and Wellness Center was designed as GW's alternative to its current athletic facility, the Smith Center. The new building would include squash, racquetball and basketball courts, a health clinic and pharmacy, a running track and fitness center.

The main objection was the size of the building, proposed for a lot on 23rd and H streets. It overshadowed the nearby St. Mary's Episcopal Church, which is recognized as a historic building.

"The proposed building was too big for that site, given St. Mary's," said Chris Lamb, president of the Foggy Bottom Association, which, along with the Advisory Neighborhood Commission and St. Mary's, opposed the site.

"We're certainly not opposed to the University expanding its athletic facility. But the campus plan specifically designates the Smith Center as the athletic facility," Lamb said. "This is probably a major setback for the University."

But the University does not see it the same way.

Robert Chernak, vice president for student and academic support services, said had the plan been passed "there probably would have been an appeal by opposition." An appeal would have entangled the University in court and forced administrators to redesign the plans anyway. This development avoids legal problems, he said.

(See BZA, p. 10)

J Street lowers prices, students still complain

BY JUSTIN BERGMAN
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Food and beverage prices were cut this week at the J Street food court, but some GW students still called the prices "ridiculous" and "unfair."

Dining Services Director George Cushman said prices for white rice and beverages were reduced because dining services had received a significant amount of student complaints about the cost of eating at J Street.

"Students had a hard time adjusting (to the prices), and we didn't want to chase them away," he said.

The price of white rice at the Panda Rice Bowl was lowered from \$2.50 to \$1.80 this week. The price of a 22-ounce refillable drink was

also slashed from \$1.29 to \$1.09. And the price of a beverage in a GW recyclable mug was reduced from \$1.09 to \$.99 this week.

LeNorman Strong, executive director of the Office of Campus Life, said the University knew the prices would have to be adjusted.

"While we had a market survey, and the prices were in line with that, we knew there needed to be some sensitivity to the university as a special market," he said.

Sophomore Omarr Aleem said the prices at J Street are still too expensive and more price cuts are needed.

"If I want to have a substantial lunch ... I have to spend seven to nine dollars. That's ridiculous," he noted.

(See STUDENTS, p. 10)

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DIGABLE PLANETS' NEW
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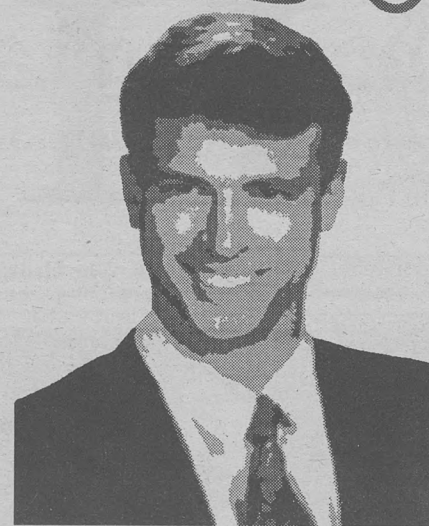
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NLC students fight for fairness in taxes

Professor advises special interest group

BY AMY BETH SCHNEIDER
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Three GW law students united with professor John Banzhaf III to win a fight against Arlington County about a property tax policy they feel was unfair to students.

David Flam, Scott Dinstell and Andrew Sanchez, second-year law students in Banzhaf's legal activism class, formed the public interest group Concerned About the Rights of Students. The group was formed in response to an Arlington County policy that would have forced Flam, not a permanent resident of Virginia, to pay taxes on his car.

Because Flam is a legal resident of Canada, his car was registered there. However, Arlington County billed him \$425 in taxes for the car, a 1993 Acura that he legally parks in the garage of his Crystal City apartment building.

He contacted the county commissioner's office upon receipt of the bill, only to be told that he had no options but to pay.

"I've never heard of an American state that imposes property taxes on out of state students who travel there to attend a university. It just seemed fundamentally unjust," Flam said.

Kim Chi of the county commissioner's office said all new residents of Arlington County are sent letters stating that they must register their vehicles in Virginia. The letters also inform the new resident that he or she will be required to pay an assessed property tax. The amount of the tax is determined by the year and make of the car.

Chi said the only people exempt from the tax are those in the active military who do not consider Virginia their domicile. Dinstell defined a domicile as the place that one is from and where one intends to permanently stay. A residence is where one lives but does not consider it to be a permanent home.

Flam, Dinstell and Sanchez researched the statutes of Virginia law and discovered that students in Virginia can only legally be taxed in their domicile and not in their residence. Flam should only have to pay taxes on his vehicle in Canada because that is his home, he said.

Flam appeared before Jean Crawford, chief deputy of the revenue for Arlington County, in early October and was informed by mail two weeks later that he did not have to pay the property tax.

"The student has no way of knowing that he is exempt from this tax and nine times out of 10 they go ahead and pay," Flam said. "We are going to pursue this project for as long as it takes Arlington County to perform its judiciary responsibility and inform its residents that they are entitled to a refund."

The group sent a proposal to the county commissioner's office demanding that the letter sent to new residents inform students from other states that they are indeed exempt from the tax. The proposal also asks that the student exemption be volunteered information on the county's public information phone line.

"We hope soon for a written response to our proposal. If we don't get a response we will take legal action," Dinstell said.

The group plans to publicize its victory in other local colleges and universities through press releases, faxes and bulletins.

"The victory demonstrates how positive legal action can be," said Banzhaf, who has overseen such projects for more than 25 years. "More lawyers need to use their legal talents in ways to advance the public interest."

Flam said it is the students' first project and "right now we have our hands full."

"Should we hear of other students being taken advantage of we wouldn't hesitate to defend them either," Flam said.

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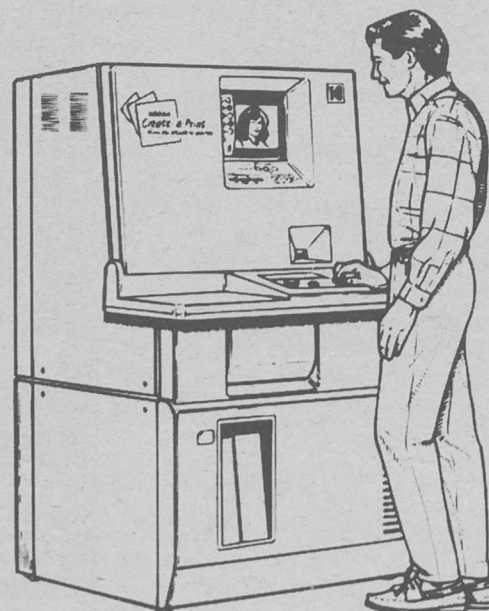


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THE GW HATCHET

An Independent Student Newspaper

Giving credit

The administration will finally begin to recognize its distinguished alumni. The University will rename Milton Hall after the late first lady Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis.

However, students may not know that Syngman Rhee, former president of South Korea, was a GW alumnus. Nor are they familiar with the fact that the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Colin Powell and TV mogul Ted Turner also graduated from GW. It's about time GW started honoring its world famous alumni.

GW needs to show visitors and potential students that the University can boast big name graduates. The residence hall on the corner of 23rd and H streets is among the first GW landmarks visitors see when they step off the Foggy Bottom Metro station, as Residence Hall Association President David Cleary said. And he's right. Milton's a high-visibility building that should be used to make a strong impression to visitors.

But more importantly, the renaming demonstrates that GW is interested in naming buildings after more than just the alumni and former presidents who donate enough money to the University worthy of their names slapped on the side of a building.

Although renaming Milton is a great way to add visibility to the University, there are plenty of other buildings that remain nameless but simply have a alphabetical code: Building JJ, Building GG and Building XX, to name a few. There are enough alumni to go around for all these nameless buildings.

For those who believe that GW is just capitalizing on the fame of Jackie O, it's true. But that's how colleges work. Naming a building after a distinguished alum is the most prestigious honor the University can bestow, and Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis is certainly worthy of this distinction.

Out of their league

Rookie Glen Robinson recently asked the Milwaukee Bucks for a \$100 million dollar contract. Robinson has never played a game in the NBA and spent only three years playing college basketball for Purdue University. The Miami Heat and the Orlando Magic each paid only \$40 million to start their teams. Robinson is asking for \$20 million more than what both these teams were worth a couple of years ago.

Closer to home, Juwan Howard is holding out for more than \$3 million from the Washington Bullets. These are not isolated incidents of greed. Everywhere around the NBA, rookies are demanding higher and higher salaries, often amounting to more than what many Hall of Famers made during their entire careers.

Teams with lower budgets and small market teams are particularly hard hit by these demonstrations of avarice by these new players. A rookie salary cap could nip this in the bud, making basketball players prove themselves before they earn the big bucks.

The problem is cyclical. As rookies pull down these astronomical sums of money, veteran superstars will also ask for more. Players like Shaquille O'Neil, who already make \$5 million a season, will demand to keep up with the rookie stars. The worst part is that hyper-inflated salaries only drive up ticket prices, but loyal fans will keep footing the bill to see their "megastars" play each season.

GW's own Yinka Dare left the Colonials after only two years, claiming in part that he might fall victim to a salary cap. But college players should not and ultimately will not be deterred from playing in college if they only make \$1 million their first year. In fact, it might even keep players like Dare in college, where they could learn what constitutes a fair contract.

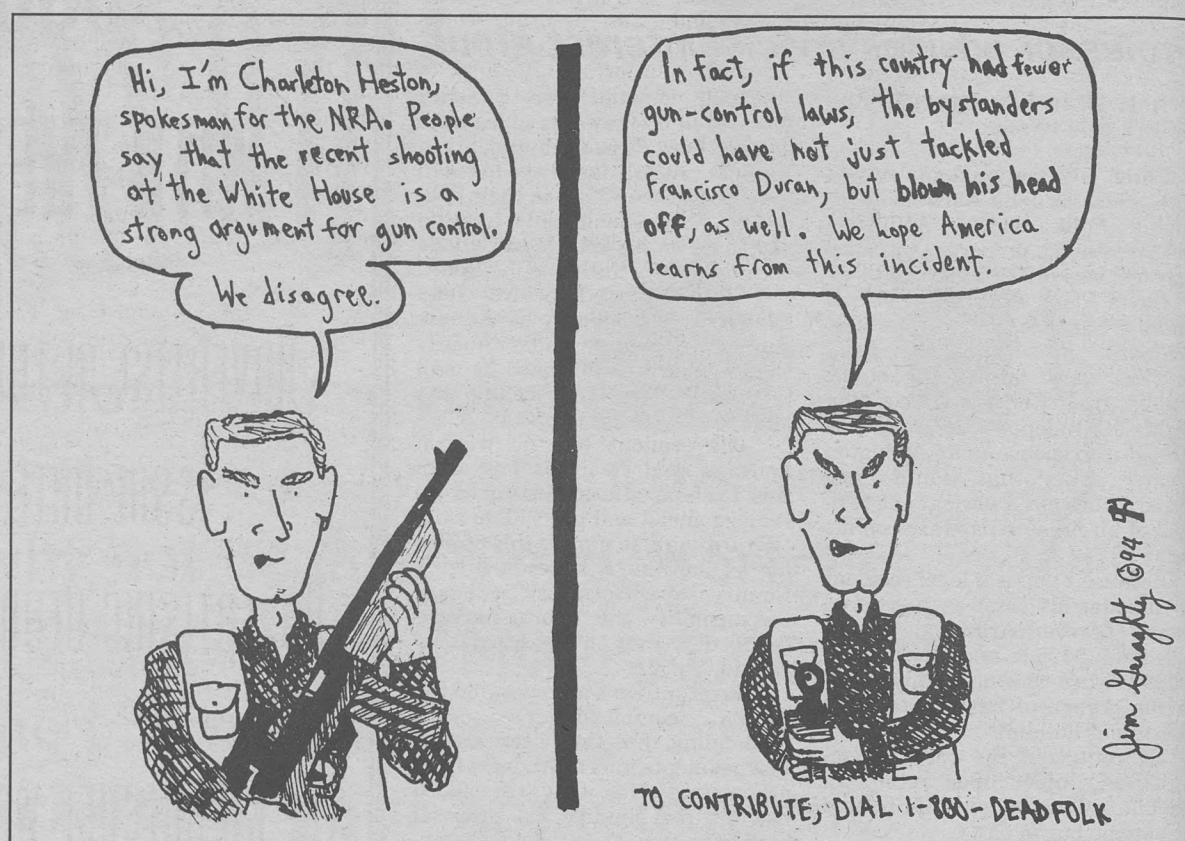
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OPINION



Get Stone on the line; we have another conspiracy brewing

Somebody please call Oliver Stone. I think I've found the next great conspiracy. This one is actually good enough to win him another "Best Picture" award. I'm serious now. This time it really is a conspiracy.

By now I'm sure all of you have heard about the shooting incident that took place outside the White House the other day. You all know how some guy walked down Pennsylvania Avenue and pulled an assault rifle out of his knee-length trenchcoat. (Excuse me, but what the heck is the point of a knee-length trenchcoat, anyway. Doesn't he care about his shins?)

Anyway, he pulls out this assault rifle, which is a gun banned in more places than 2 Live Crew. Not only does he aim the rifle in broad daylight, he fires about 30 rounds into the most heavily guarded house this side of the Kennedy mansion in West Palm Beach, Fla. This much they told us on the nightly news.

What they didn't mention, however, was that this entire episode is part of a grand conspiracy by the state of Colorado. Astute observers may have noticed that Francisco Martin Duran, the alleged guy with the rifle, was from Colorado Springs. At the same time, the latest fad hero, Robert Haines, is also from Colorado. (Oliver Stone just called, he's on the way.)

You see, it doesn't take much to form a conspiracy theory. Duran attended classes at Colorado State University at some point in his life

and Haines taught classes there at some point in his life. There you have it. You can't just assume it's coincidence that the same two men that would grace the pages of every newspaper on earth both happened to be standing around the

Jared Sher

White House for 30 minutes Sunday.

Furthermore, you can't take it for granted that a pristine bullet managed to pierce the bodies of Texas Gov. John Connally and President Kennedy seven times and still come out looking perfect on a stretcher in Parkland Memorial Hospital. There is no way that boy Oswald did the shooting job he did from that School Book Depository.

Whoops, I guess I kind of lost track for a second. It must be my Oliver Stone anticipation hormone kicking in. I suddenly envisioned myself standing on the grassy knoll next to Abraham Zapruder. Oh well, it must have been Lafayette Square next to the guy still filming the GW promotional video.

In any case, I guess you'd also have me believe this Haines guy being a presidential candidate has nothing to do with the incident.

Come on now, he's just 50 states shy of being the next Perot phenomenon, for crying out loud. This is a man that's obviously looking for publicity.

The next election is just two years away and he can't afford an infomercial. So what does he do? He looks up an old buddy from CSU who apparently wants to kill himself anyway and asks for a little help. (We know he apparently wants to kill himself because The Washington Post told us he left a "semi-suicide note." I guess that means he wants to kill himself, but perhaps he ran out of paper to finish the note.)

Thus, the two men gather in front of the great symbol of democracy and engage in an inspired act of conspiracy. When it's all said and done, Haines is the hero who wrestles the evil Duran to the ground and saves the free world as we know it.

The moral of the story: use your write-in vote and make Haines the next Virginia senator. He's a bigger story than North or Robb could ever hope to be.

Did I mention this Duran guy is an ace pilot? I hear he had this hobby of flying Cessna airplanes down Pennsylvania Ave. In fact, he may even have crashed once ... See ya soon Mr. Stone.

Jared Sher, a sophomore, is assistant sports editor of The GW Hatchet.

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Doctor champions Haitians

BY LAWANA HOLLAND
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

An anthropologist and physician who spent 12 years working in a clinic in Haiti said the future of Haitian democracy rests with the poor of the island nation, not with added U.S. intervention.

Paul Farmer was the key speaker in a lecture Tuesday sponsored by the Progressive Student Union and the Latin American Student Association.

"America has been intervening in Haiti for 100 years or longer," Farmer said, citing the U.S. invasion of Haiti in 1950, which led to a 20-year occupation. The Haitian army itself was formed at the command of the U.S. Marines, Farmer said. For years, the army has been trained at the School of the Americas at Fort Benning, Ga. According to

Farmer, even the Haitian constitution was rewritten by the United States.

According to Farmer, the CIA has also had a hand in influencing Haitian politics. The CIA trained special Haitian army units, forged documents on human rights violations and had key leaders on their payrolls, Farmer said.

Haiti also received large amounts of economic aid from the United States, Farmer said. Farmer cited a 1991 study after the September coup that ousted Aristide. The study concluded that major U.S. newspapers attributed 60 percent of human rights abuses to Aristide and 40 percent to the army, which was anti-Aristide.

"Many of my patients were victims of torture by the army," Farmer said. "No matter what these guys did, it wasn't enough to stop U.S. aid."

The U.S. sent troops in Sept. 1994 to restore Aristide to power.

"The people were delighted to see someone come to rough up the Haitian army," Farmer said. "Some older Haitians who remembered the 1950 invasion originally thought it was a bad idea."

Farmer said he is worried about the future of democracy in Haiti.

"Aristide has always been a champion of the poor," Farmer said. "The Haitian people don't want him to step down, but he is limited to one term by their constitution. They love him."

Farmer said he hopes for a restructured army and a stop to the killings, as well as investigations into injustice against the people.

"From working with them I have learned that if the people start cheering, I should cheer too," Farmer said.

Former congressman visits political science class

BY MICHAEL BROWN
SPECIAL TO THE HATCHET

Former Florida Rep. Charles Bennett (D) shared the wisdom he gained from more than 40 years in Congress with an introductory level political science class Wednesday afternoon.

Bennett emphasized his beliefs in public service, faith in the self and his admiration of all the presidents he served under.

Bennett, a professor of government at Jacksonville University, served in the House of Representatives from 1948 to 1992 and was the second most senior member of Congress when he retired.

He said he believed the "desires to do things for other people and your country should put you in office." Bennett said his record demonstrates this belief - he did not miss a single legislative vote in more than 41 years in Congress.

"We emphasize to our students that you have a first-hand chance here in Washington," teaching assistant

John Holder said.

"It was interesting how he had good things to say about each president," student Chad Smith said.

President Truman was the chief executive Bennett seemed to hold in highest admiration. As a freshman congressman when Truman held the presidency, Bennett said he liked the president because he was "gutsy... and strong."

Bennett added that he still had high regard for his political rivals although he was "always a party man."

Bennett emphasized personal faith as a strength in motivating himself in his work. He mentioned that President Eisenhower prayed at his inauguration, and President Carter believed "two people shaking hands with God at the same time can work out magnificently."

Bennett himself was the man responsible for the 1955 legislation which coined the motto "In God We Trust."

Bennett also said he was very much against term limitations in Congress. "It's a dumb thing to do," he said. "Why would you want to punish Congress (members) when instead you punish the public?"

Sarah Lawrence College

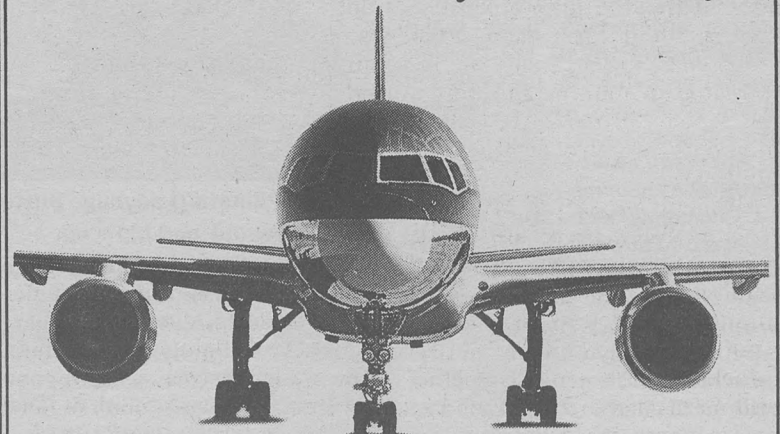
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impressions

Digable Planets prove they're 'slicker this year'

BY DAVID LARIMER
ARTS EDITOR

On their first album, *Reachin'* (a new refutation of time and space), Digable Planets appeared to have their cake and eat it, too.

Applying a beatnik-style, jazz-infused groove that seemed perfectly suited for a coffeehouse, the New York City trio still managed to hold onto a distinctly hip-hop sound. Despite light vocal harmonies, surreal lyrics and ethereal nicknames, the band earned respect within rap's fickle inner circles. And above all, the Planets became arguably the first rap act to win a Grammy without looking like sellouts.

But on *Blowout Comb* (Pendulum/EMI), their follow-up, Butterfly, Doodlebug and Ladybug have appeared to move both figuratively and literally into the heart of hip-hop, trading the trendiness of Greenwich Village for the grittiness of Brooklyn. Some of the smoothness in *Reachin'* is replaced with hard-edged, old school rap styles. Where the debut featured optimism tempered occasionally by social messages, the opposite is true on *Blowout Comb*.

The lyrics reflect the conscious



Digable Planets (Ladybug, Butterfly and Doodlebug, l. to r.) continue to blow out and blow up.

effort by Digable Planets to address the black community. But they bypass the all-too typical bantering about guns and bitches, instead advocating activism and awareness. Examples such as "Dial 7" ("Black people, black people / Steal your mind back / Don't die in their wilderness") point to an increased somberness in their songwriting. They point to an

increased spirituality as well: the number seven carries particular resonance in the Muslim faith – it's no accident that it's sprinkled throughout the album.

Other songs feature guest spots by hip-hop luminaries from Brooklyn, which has become the

place for the young, gifted and black in the New York area. Gangstarr's Guru lends his smooth baritone to "Borough Check," an homage to Crooklyn, while Jeru the Damaja chips in on "Graffiti." It all creates the feeling that Digable Planets are consciously weeding out those who appreciate them for their smash hit "Rebirth of Slick (Cool Like Dat)" and nothing else.

The first single, "9th Wonder (Blackitolism)," does much to explain Digable's new approach. Laid over an amazing retro beat (which includes a sample of Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five's "Superappin' Theme") and featuring old school DJ Jazzy Joyce on the wheels and backing vocals, the group kicks vintage rap with the best of them. One can't miss the repeated line "I'm slicker this year," a declaration that "Rebirth of Slick" is indeed in the past.

But the group has not completely abandoned its trademarks. All of the tracks still take their own sweet time, loping along at an oth-

erworldly pace. The opening track, "The May 4th Movement Starring Doodlebug," is a beautiful head-bopper that seems to extend directly from *Reachin'*. Jazz guitar and horns are still sprinkled liberally throughout.

Foremost among these trademarks is the remarkable lyricism of the trio. Even with their move back into hip-hop, they steer clear of the genre's bent toward nightmarish scenarios. Butterfly and Ladybug, with their childlike lilt and clever wordplay, seem to float slightly above their surroundings. When Ladybug says, "Now you see that I'm 68 inches above sea level / 93 million miles above these devils," it's hard not to believe her.

Blowout Comb is an admirable retort to the old adage about the sophomore jinx. By combining many of the best elements of *Reachin'* with a deep bow to hip-hop's past and present, *Blowout Comb* reiterates Digable Planets' talent. Where they could have made a bankable clone of their surprise hit debut, they have taken an esoteric, challenging, ambitious and terrific new direction.

Ween remains best of the worst

BY KYNAN KELLY
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Ween, the New Jersey dastardly duo of Dean and Gene Ween, are back at it with their fourth album, *Chocolate and Cheese* (Elektra). Of course, anyone who actually owns their first three will tell you the Brothers Ween are more cheese than chocolate.

The first three albums, and most notably their last LP, *Pure Guava*, were studies in soul-searching noise care of buzzing guitar, some really sophomoric keyboard wizardry and some ingeniously juvenile lyrics delivered abrasively yet infectiously by "Gener."

In other words, Ween is the poor man's Beastie Boys. A really, really poor (and slightly deaf) man's. But like the Beastie Boys, Ween gives evidence on *Chocolate and Cheese* that they have finally learned how to play some instruments.

Mind you, it's not that they've lost any of their playfulness, humor or sardonic irreverence for the conventions of rock 'n' roll. It's just that by learning how to actually emit sounds besides feedback from their guitars and keyboards, they've crept a bit closer to sounding like rock 'n' roll.

Classifying a Ween album is utterly impossible and ultimately unnecessary, since all the songs are completely different from each other. "Take Me Away," the first track, showcases the boys hamming it up as they combine the smarmy simplicity of lounge singing with machine-gun drums and feedback. The second, "Spinal Meningitis (Got Me Down)," is a bit more classic Ween, replete with very disturbing lyrics – as the title suggests – delivered in a little boy's bittersweet soprano.

"Freedom of '76" celebrates the grungy, greasy underbelly of

Philadelphia. "Liberty bell cracked in half/A bacon steak/A perfect match/...Mannequin was filmed at Woolworth's/Boyz II Men still keepin' up the beat, yeah/Freedom of '76."

Some of the influences on Ween's experimentations are obvious. "Roses Are Free" provides Gener with a chance to display his ability to impersonate the old Prince, and "Joppa Road" is a jaunty little tune which sounds like a suburbanized version of the Beach Boys' "Kokomo."

But most of the songs are entirely original innovations of the Ween brother's cough-syrup induced imaginations. Moreover, many of them on *Chocolate and Cheese* are great listens. The aforementioned songs, with the possible exception of "Spinal Meningitis," all set the fingers to drummin', as do "What Deaner was Talkin' About," "Voodoo Lady," "The HIV Song" and "Don't Shit Where You Eat."

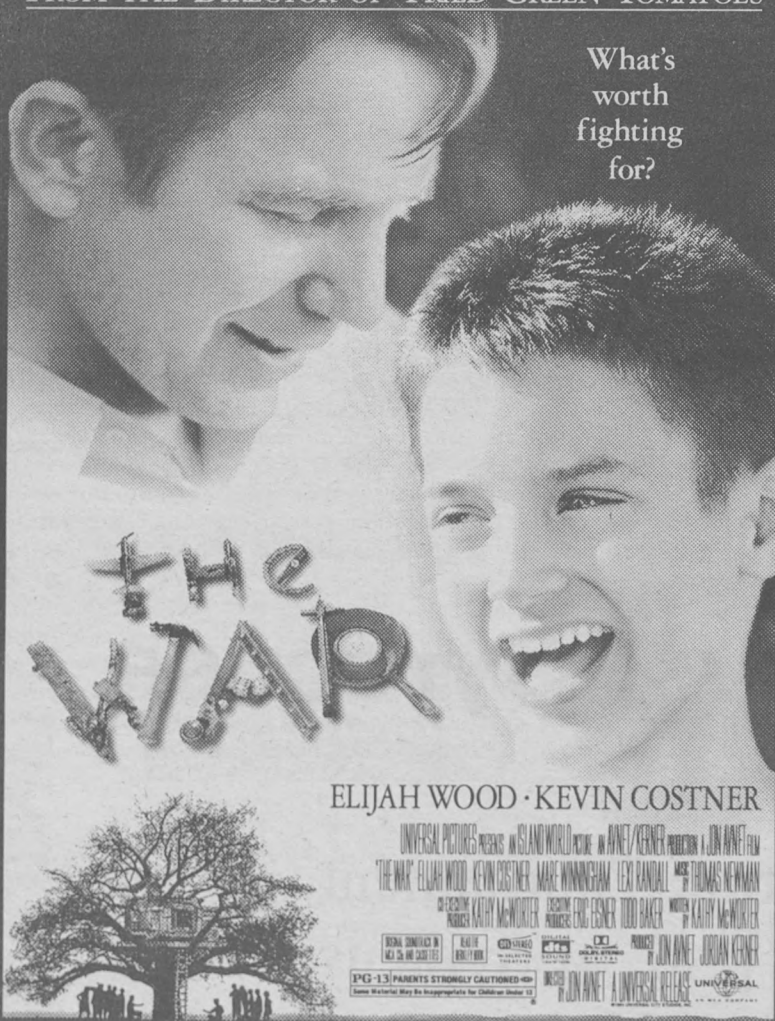
Deaner admits in the press release that although "this is our most mellow record, somehow it turned out to be the most aggressive of the four." Indeed, the album boasts two instrumentals, including one pseudo-classical electric guitar selection entitled "A Tear For Eddie," and a spoken-word Mexican ballad called "Buenas Tardes Amigo." Clearly, the band has traded its customary aggressive vulgarity for the equally aggressive exploration (and bastardization) of new musical genres.

Through it all, Ween has always been the embodiment of every suburban boy's dream: to actually own some instruments and sort of be able to play them and sing some songs about one's own mundane little life experiences (like pumping gas on Pure Guava's Pumpin' 4 The Man). And maybe, just maybe, a record company notices you because you are so bad as to be completely new, different and refreshing.



Gene (l.) and Dean go light on the chocolate, heavy on the cheese.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "FRIED GREEN TOMATOES"



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SPOTLIGHT

Rolling across campus one wheel at a time

BY KAREN D. ANCILLAI
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Like some other GW students, freshman Shana Miller uses a wheeled mode of transportation to get to class. She doesn't use a bicycle or roller blades. Instead Shana prefers something of the one wheel persuasion — a unicycle.

How does someone who grew up in "a very normal little suburban family" in Natick, Ma., a suburb of Boston, come to start riding a unicycle?

"Every year a circus would come to my town and set up outside my high school," Miller explains. She first saw unicyclers and jugglers, sparking her interest in the circus arts as a young girl.

"But I never thought I could do it until I was about 14," she says.

At 15, Miller set out to pursue her dream and purchased a used unicycle through the want ads in the newspaper. It cost \$60. In retrospect, she says she "thinks that's the best way (to learn) ... buy an old used one."

Miller had never ridden a unicycle before buying one and had only sat on one once. She knew teaching herself to ride a unicycle definitely was going to be a challenge.

"When you start riding a unicycle, you basically just fall off," she points out. Miller wasn't easily discouraged, though. She practiced 15 minutes a day in her backyard, leaning on everything from fences to her best friend.

Miller's mother, a computer programmer, and father, a guidance counselor at her high school, thought the unicycle fixation was just a phase.

"My parents thought I was completely crazy and wouldn't help me at all," Miller remembers. Her parents have come around to accept the idea, and they purchased a brand new, top-quality unicycle for her high school graduation.

Miller's new hobby has not progressed without mishaps. Although she has never broken a bone in a unicycle accident, sprained wrists and bruises are common

occurrences. When Miller first started riding, her legs were black and blue from her ankles to her knees from banging them on the pedals.

"But I didn't mind," she says, "I felt they were like war wounds. I was proud of them."

Once she had gotten the knack of riding the unicycle, Miller says she started meeting people who could also ride. Plus, she got the itch to try new things.

"I felt I was invincible," she says, laughing.

Juggling became her next endeavor. Friends interested in magic brought her to shops where she heard about the juggling clubs at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. It was there that Miller honed her juggling talents, watching and learning from the older club members.

"The ones who were in their 20s were my mentors. They had been juggling for years and years," she says.

Along with friends from the juggling clubs, this past summer Miller got into the habit

of going to Boston at night to watch the street performers.

Miller says she looks up to street performers.

"When you start doing street performing, you have to go through a stage of being pretty bad," she explains.

Miller admires those who work past that point and develop their skill into a veritable act. She is interested in trying a little street performing next summer back in Boston. Miller won't try street performing here because she says it is illegal on federal property.

"If you pulled out juggling equipment at the Washington Monument, you would be hauled off," Miller warns.

This past summer, Miller's unicycling and juggling talents landed her a job at a circus camp in Burlington, Vt. As a counselor and coach at Circus Smirkus, she demonstrated her crafts to other young people and helped them coordinate an act

for a final show.

In just a few short months at GW, Miller has found a niche for circus skills.

She met fellow juggler Kevin Krouse, a resident assistant on Thurston Hall's seventh floor, and together they practice passing clubs to one another. The two also performed at Medieval Day, passing flaming torches and wowing the crowd.

Away from school, Miller joined a juggling club that meets at the Old Post Office Pavilion. She

even brings her unicycle to the meetings to learn new tricks from other members and play unicycle tag.

"In comparison to unicycling 'juggling is actually something I do a lot more of lately,'" Miller says. Although she is already a member of the Jugglers' Association, Miller is looking to join more groups so she can attend more conventions.

At conventions, Miller has the opportunity to enter competitions and races.

"I'm not good enough to be in competitions yet," Miller says. The people who enter the challenges at the national and international level have just unfathomable talent, and she says she does look forward to the chance.

Miller has not completely abandoned her unicycle, though. She says it still stands as her favorite mode of transportation around campus, a fact that attracts her much attention. She must always be prepared to stop and let people try out the one-wheeled contraption, even if she is simply on her way to class or the MC Store.

Miller says that she does not mind loan-

ing her unicycle for a trial run, explaining that it is sturdy so she doesn't worry about it breaking.

"I get a lot of congratulations after people try it and see how difficult it is," she says, smiling.

When Miller rides her unicycle to class, she does not lock it up outside like other students do with their bicycles. She brings it right into class and stands it up next to her chair. One teacher mistook it for just a wheel Miller removed from a bicycle locked outside.

"He told me, 'You know, some people actually ride things like that,'" she recalls.

Miller says she has considered a full-time circus career instead of college. For such an endeavor, she would probably travel to France, where hundreds of circus schools exist.

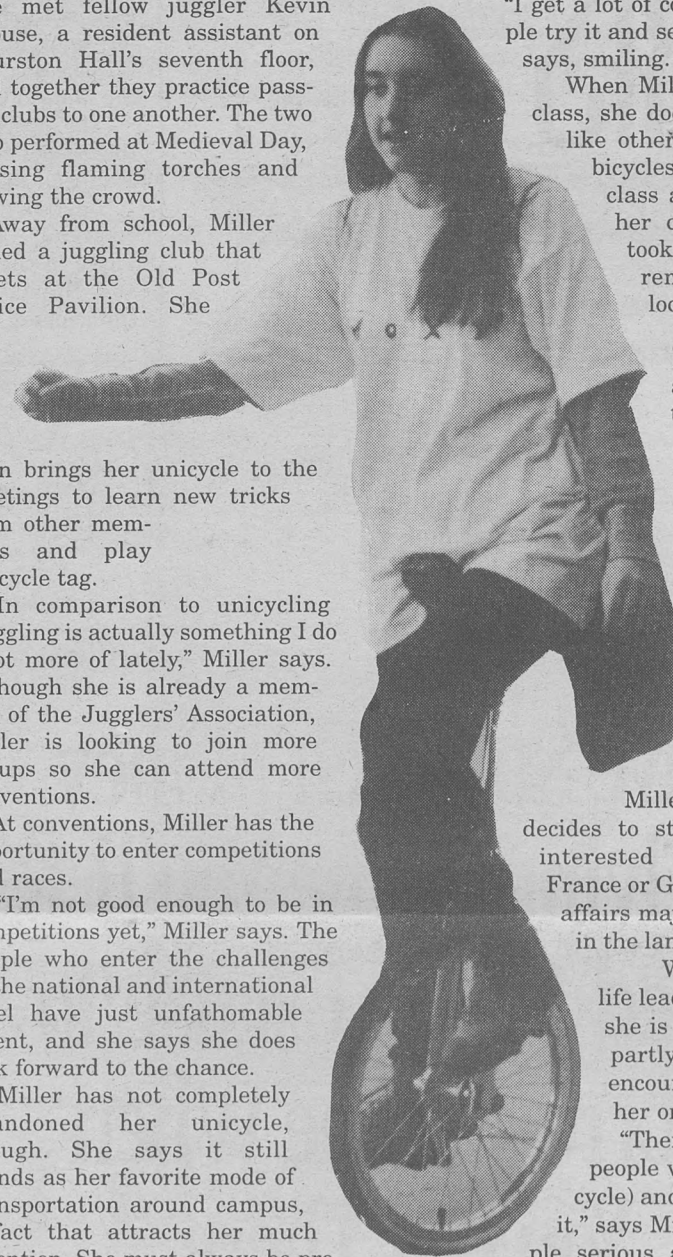
"In Europe, the circus is considered an art and is supported by the government,"

Miller explains. Even if she decides to stay in school, Miller is interested in traveling to either France or Germany. An international affairs major, she says she is fluent in the languages of both countries.

Whether Miller's road in life leads her to the circus or not she is sure to travel it, at least partly, on a unicycle. And she encourages others to follow in her one-wheeled shadow.

"There's a difference between people who want to try (the unicycle) and those who want to learn it," says Miller who suggests to people serious about the unicycle that they buy one themselves.

But if they just want to try the one-wheeled contraption she says, "They can come see me."



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Businessmen encourage overseas trade

BY ERICA FRANKEL
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Experts on Latin America spoke Tuesday on the opportunities in public and private business in the emerging markets of Latin America.

Walter Bastian, director of the Latin American Region in the U.S. Department of Commerce, and Eric Williams, managing director for sales of the Federal Express Corporation, addressed students in the Marvin Center.

The speech was sponsored by the School of Business and Public Management.

Bastian said there are 10 emerging markets worldwide. Three of them, Mexico, Argentina and Brazil, are in the Western Hemisphere. These three countries

are seen as emerging markets because their pace of reform is the greatest, Bastian said.

Mexico's growing U.S. export market, the size of Brazil's market, and the fact that Argentina has undertaken reform and privatization without creating unemployment is what has allowed these three countries to become emerging markets, Bastian said.

"There has been a revolution in Latin America in the positive sense," Bastian said. "There is a change in the outlook and philosophy by leaders. The decision makers of Latin America were educated in America and this group of people are true advocates and believers in the free-market system."

The role of the government is to work to encourage reform and additional policy changes, Bastian said. He added that the United

States wants to "solidify the relationships with these three (countries), reinforce the reforms already made and make it easier for more economic reforms to take place by a variety of activities."

The Department of Commerce hopes to convince the private sector to work with the United States with little public sector money, he said. Success will be accomplished "if there is a benefit to the private sector and aid to create jobs in the U.S."

There is competition to discover and create opportunities that exist in markets. Federal Express's goal is to introduce time base competition to Latin America.

"Time is the most expensive (aspect)," Williams said.

Williams said his company wants to immerse Federal Express in the Latin American market. Commerce and trade is the way of the world, he added.

"Being truly global and in every country is impossible," Williams said. "Management is like a poker game. The higher up you are, the more responsibility you must take."

Williams said to conduct business overseas, it is essential to use the U.S. government and world trade groups, but "the main ingredient is the contacts you will get to know from the university."

"Living in Washington is a way to know people from other lands," he said.

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Roaches sicken grad student

(from p. 1)

Dooley said the building is exterminated biweekly, as is typical for apartments managed by the company. She also said the resident manager had exterminated Armstrong's apartment Monday and a professional exterminator came the next day.

Yet Armstrong was not the only resident to complain of roaches. Chu-Chie Yi, a graduate student in the Elliott School of International Affairs who has lived in the Schenley for a year and a half, said the exterminators only came twice to three times a year. She said the roaches were worse this year than last.

Yi said she also keeps her apartment clean and is unsure why the roaches keep coming back.

"Everyday before I go to sleep I take the garbage out," she said.

The exterminator had sprayed the apartment both Monday and Tuesday afternoon, but Armstrong said roaches were back by 5 p.m. During an interview, roaches were climbing on Armstrong's kitchen shelves, in her bathroom sink and on her bedroom walls.

The roaches even infiltrate her clothes, she explained. When she packs to go home, she takes her suitcase to her boyfriend's house where she shakes it out the next day before she goes home.

"When I go home (to Atlanta), it is a two-day process," she said.

Armstrong said officials of both Waggaman-Brawner and the University were unresponsive and rude, until she went to GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg's office. She claimed that while the Off-Campus Housing Resource Center offers advice about how to deal with landlord problems, another part of the University contributed to these problems, she said.

Armstrong said told her she was \$2,300 in debt to the University, which she in turn said was untrue. She said she only owed September's rent on her \$560 a month apartment and had canceled her check for her October payment because of the cockroach incident.

After being bounced around to various offices on the phone and in person, Armstrong went to Trachtenberg's office. Though the president was unavailable to talk to her, Armstrong said Dwight Cropp, Trachtenberg's special assistant for public affairs, was the first person to treat her fairly.

Cropp said that although he had little direct power to do anything about the situation, "clearly she had a serious problem." He added that if one of his college-aged children had called him with this problem, "I'd be climbing the wall."

Cropp said he referred Armstrong to two vice presidents' offices: the Vice President and Treasurer's office, which handles the rental property GW owns, and Student and Academic Support Services, which handles concerns of students.

Muldoon declined to comment further.



by Claire Duggan

Even after exterminators sprayed her apartment, roaches still invaded Armstrong's kitchen shelves.

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Strong Hall's 4th floor wins \$150 prize for contest

The residents on Strong Hall's fourth floor captured a \$150 prize in the Substance Abuse Prevention Center's bulletin board decoration contest.

The contest encouraged resident assistants to sponsor alternative programs on their floors as part of Alcohol Awareness Week. The money will go toward planning a program that encourages residents to do something other than drink, said Connie Livengood, substance abuse prevention coordinator.

The fourth floor of Strong featured a display with scales that urged students to "weigh their options," Livengood said. The board has many facts and statistics that students could relate to, she said.

Kendra Bickle is the RA on Strong's fourth floor.

-Elissa Leibowitz

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BZA claims GW disregards St. Mary's

(from p. 1)

The Health and Wellness Center plan has been in the works for years. The majority of the debate has taken place in the months since the plan was presented to the local ANC. The plan faced scrutiny by the Board of Zoning Adjustment in two hearings in June and September. The

board culminated this round of debate with Wednesday's vote.

Chernak said the Health and Wellness Center is necessary to heighten conditions on campus. He called the project "a significant enough project in terms quality of life" for students that the University will press on.

"The University feels it has

right to built this," Chernak said. "This has been our position all along."

But Lamb said GW officials need to keep the community — more specifically St. Mary's Church — in mind. The large building, which would block natural light from shining through the church's stained glass windows,

should not cause such a major disruption to the beauty of Foggy Bottom, he said.

Architects for GW had said at a Sept. 28 hearing before the board the church "could definitely hold its own in an urban environment."

Chernak added the debate also centered around the potential pedestrian traffic near the facility.



by Claire Duggan

A student checks out the prices at J Street.

Students still feel pinch despite cuts in prices

(from p. 1)

Cushman said he did not know whether dining services would be reducing any more food and beverage prices in the future.

According to Cushman, food prices are determined through an "approval process" between the University and ServiceMaster. He said the process entailed pricing food based on its quality and comparing the prices with other Universities and restaurants in the area.

Labor costs and the cost of the J Street renovation are two other factors that influence the price of the food and beverages, Cushman said.

On the whole, "the prices are comparable to the area restaurants," although they are not able to compete with supermarket prices, Cushman said.

J Street prices are relatively similar to the prices at some of the restaurants near campus, including Au Bon Pain, La Prima and Subway.

For example, turkey breast, ham and roast beef sandwiches with "everything" on them cost \$4.30 at J Street's 1821 Deli. Similar sandwiches range from \$4.25 to \$5.25 at Au Bon Pain and La Prima. Also, sandwiches at Subway range from \$4.39 to \$4.79. The only exception is the lower cost of these sandwiches at the GW Deli, which range from \$2.50 to \$3.15.

However, pasta dishes at La Prima are about \$1.60 less than pasta dishes at J Street. Also, the price of 22-ounce drinks is 89 cents at Subway and La Prima, while J Street was charging \$1.29 for the same size drink. J Street's drinks are refillable, however, while the other two drinks are not.

Cushman said that the pricing at J Street has been relatively conservative for a business trying to make a return on its investment. ServiceMaster paid for the renovation this summer of the food court, which Cushman said cost approximately \$4.5 million.

"No one in their right mind would make the investment we made and sell at the prices (at which we're selling)," he said.



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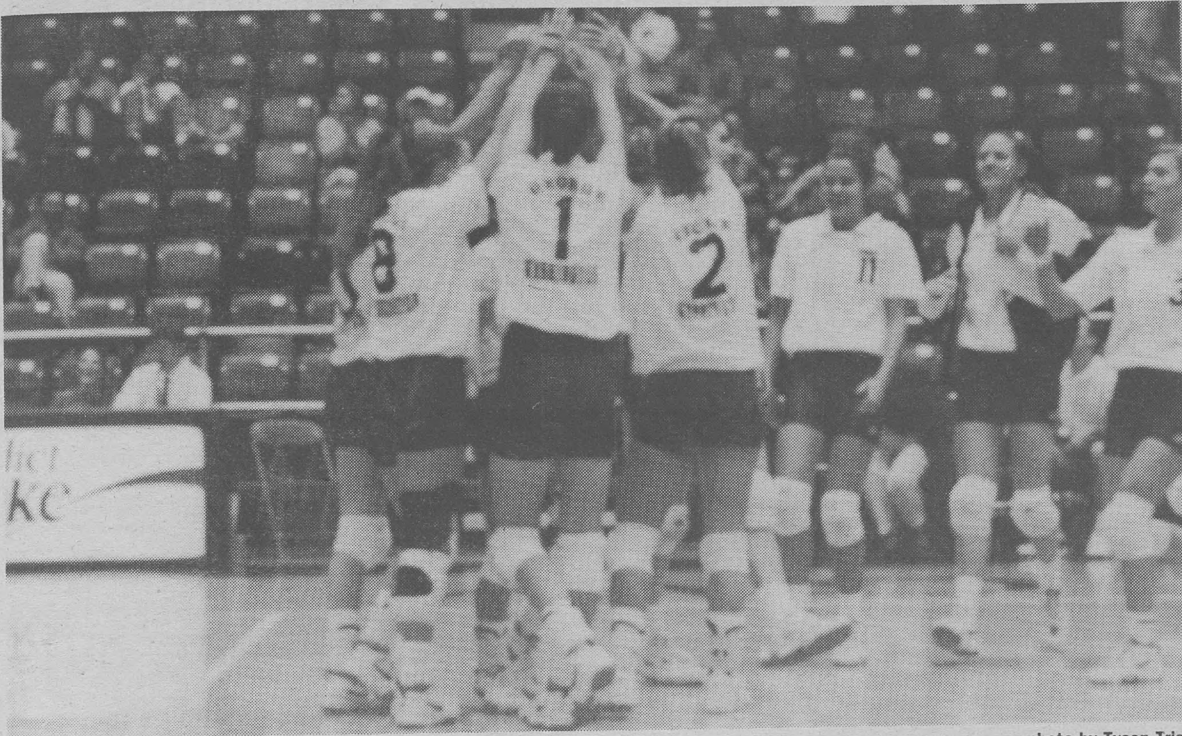


photo by Tyson Trish

Colonial Women converge to celebrate a win earlier this year. The team seeks to re-establish its dominance in the A-10 this weekend.

GW sets out on road to revenge

Volleyball prepares for vital rematch with Minutewomen

BY JARED SHER
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Coaches may say that a team's success builds up over the course of the season, but for GW volleyball Oct. 14 was a defining moment.

The game against Massachusetts was just part of a weekend in which the Colonial Women were forced to deal with adversity for the first time all season. Until then, GW had just two losses. Both occurred as part of a season-opening road trip against top-ranked competition.

At the start of the weekend, the Colonial Women were riding the momentum of a 17-match winning streak. GW was 18-2 and also claimed dominance in the Smith Center, having won 22 straight at home.

By the end of the weekend, however, the Colonial Women had been brought down to earth. They lost their first Atlantic 10 conference regular-season game in two years and were forced to deal with an injury to outside hitter Liu Li.

"After a loss like that, you just need to sit back and re-identify our goals and just make sure we're on the right track to an A-10 championship," head coach Susie Homan said. "This team's not going to be happy with anything less than a championship."

Despite the hardships, GW learned from its experience. Ultimately, the team realized it is better to lose in October than to lose when the season is on the line during the A-10 tournament.

Moreover, the Colonial Women took the loss as a wake-up call. The next night, GW rebounded to beat Rhode Island even without Liu.

The Colonial Women take pride in their ability to regroup following the last loss. Since then, they have won six straight, including four on the road. They

responded to the adversity by playing and practicing harder, Homan said.

"That proved a lot about our team that we were able to bounce back and play as well as we did," Homan said.

In a little bit of scheduling irony, the Colonial Women will face these same two teams on the road in back-to-back games this weekend. This time, GW will have Liu, and the memories of the loss as incentives. The team has prepared for the rematch for some time. The players are convinced they will be ready.

"There's no question in my mind that UMass knows we didn't play well (last time), but at the same time, it doesn't matter — they beat us," Homan said. "With that in mind, we need to get off to a very strong start so that they recognize this isn't the same team they played the last time we met."

GW has a lot to prove when it steps on the court this weekend. While still on top of the A-10, the Colonial Women know other teams find them vulnerable. Until the loss, the team had been invincible within the conference. They are out to show that still is the case.

"I think we feel very confident about the weekend," Homan said. "We're just anxious and excited about playing ... We have some things to prove. We have to go out there and do the job we know we're capable of doing."

In other volleyball news, Anna Krimmel probably will miss her second-straight weekend following eye surgery last week. The starting middle blocker sustained the injury when she got hit in the eye with a ball during practice.

She will travel with the team this weekend, but probably will not play, Homan said. The team will know for certain after Krimmel sees the doctor Thursday.

Golf coach Betts bids his mates fond farewell

BY KYNAN KELLY
SPORTS EDITOR

After three and a half years as the driving force of GW golf, head coach Keith Betts is leaving his team, but not before bestowing one last learning and growing experience on his players.

At the Old Dominion Fall Tournament Oct. 31 to Nov. 1, Betts matched his team up against 20 powerhouses in the southern region — teams Betts identified as the "best teams in the country."

Betts, who is resigning so he can become the director of regional programs with the GW Office of Alumni Relations, said he intentionally schedules competitions with teams that are out of GW's league, because it strengthens the team's performance even though it doesn't have a chance of winning. He also said the strategy has proved successful in his tenure as head coach.

"We always come in last (at this tournament), but it gives us a yardstick to measure where we are and where we need to go," Betts said. "Obviously, it has worked. The program has grown, not year by year, but semester by semester, in leaps and bounds."

True to form, the Colonials placed last in the 21-team field with a two-day total of 641. The University of Virginia won a one-hole playoff with East Carolina and Old Dominion universities to capture the victory with a score of 577. Akron finished just ahead of GW with a 631.

Betts said he was "very pleased" with the 306 the Colonials swung in the first round, but "equally disappointed" with the second round's 335, even though the second day's outing was hindered by gusting winds.

"Even in the more adverse weather conditions, we should have shot around a 315," he said. "All the scores were worse the second day. It was a mixed tournament."

GW's Bobby Snyder placed highest for the Colonials, grabbing 75th with a 156 (77-79). Betts applauded the junior on his performance this fall and said he serves as an example of what the rest of the Colonials need to work on in

the off-season transition.

"Bobby Snyder has come through in a big way, performing above and beyond all expectations," he said. "He's been pretty consistent, and that's one of the traits you need in golf. Consistency is one of the things other people on the team need to work on."

GW's 306 earned it a tie with Winthrop College for 19th after the first day, but Tuesday's 335 was the highest at the tournament. Virginia shot a 283 Monday but dropped to a 294 Tuesday, while East Carolina golfed a 286-291. Old Dominion stayed more consistent with a 287-290.

GW's Rob Duva earned 90th with a 160 (76-84), while Scott Lutz's 163 (77-86) was good enough for 98th. Gray Fontenot golfed a 172 (86-86) to finish 105th.

Dave Coates of East Carolina was the top individual golfer, earning the victory with a 138 (71-67). Campbell University's Troy Ferria shot a remarkable 66 the first day but slipped to 74 the second day to finish with a runner-up score of 140.

The golf team now adjourns for the winter break before resuming competition March 6-7 at the William and Mary tournament. When the Colonials hit the links once again, they will have a new coach, although Betts said his successor has not yet been chosen.

Betts looks back with pride on how far the golf team has progressed since he took over.

"I've really enjoyed these three and a half years. I've had a good time. In three and a half years, we've built the team up from the grassroots level to being in the top 10 in the northeast region," he said. "This fall's been tremendous. We've come a long way and put GW on the map."

Ever the instructor, Betts has a few final pieces of advice for his team.

"It's going to take an effort on the part of the remaining players to dedicate a lot of time to practice if they want to maintain what they've built. As quick as you build something ... it can fall apart just as fast."

In his 10-year stint in GW Athletics he also coached the men's soccer team.

Lady Blue Devil kicks gender barrier

Place-kicker attempts to become 1st female in football

(CPS) - Heather Mercer showed up to practice on a recent Monday at Duke University for a kicking tryout to try to become the first female to play Division I-A football.

And while the freshman from Yorktown Heights, N.Y., was told she is not ready for the team right now, Duke coach Fred Goldsmith is not about to write off Mercer's chances just yet.

Last year, Mercer helped her high school team win the New York state championship with her solid field goal kicking and her ability to

consistently score extra points. Mercer approached Goldsmith in mid-September about a possible slot on the team as a back-up kicker.

But after the tryout, Goldsmith told reporters that Mercer was not "where she needs to be to kick at this level of football."

Goldsmith told Mercer that she was welcome to practice with Duke's three kickers for the rest of the season and said she could try out for the team again next spring.

Both Mercer and Goldsmith

hoped to keep the tryout quiet but were unable to avoid publicity. In fact, Goldsmith delayed the tryout for one week because a Sports Illustrated writer and photographer were on Duke's campus to do a story on the undefeated ACC team. But after the local media found out about the newest Blue Devil hopeful, the story quickly spread.

Mercer, though, wants no part of the media spotlight for now. She says she has stopped taking calls from reporters because she's fed up with all of the publicity.

SPORTS BRIEF

Traci Jensen, the GW women's soccer team's starting goalkeeper, will be sidelined for this weekend's Atlantic 10 championship tournament. Jensen tore her anterior cruciate ligament in practice Monday and is expected to undergo surgery in California next week.

Danielle Dourney will step up to assume the responsibilities in the net, though she has not started a game since September when she and Jensen were switching off every other game. The decision to give Dourney playing time has proved tragically prophetic, but head coach Shannon Higgins-Cirovski said the team is comfortable with Dourney in goal.

"The team feels really confident in her, especially since there was a time when she was starting. I'm really glad she got that playing time because it gives her confidence," Higgins-Cirovski said. "If she hadn't had that time, she might have been a bit hesitant."

Higgins-Cirovski said this year's grueling schedule will help the Colonial Women in the tournament. "The confidence this team gained playing against Duke and North Carolina and knowing we were in the game or should have won those games" will benefit the team, she said.

-Kynan Kelly

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